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ORIGIN EUR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: EUR/IB:TGMARTIN:BAS

9/20/73 EXT 22632

APROVED BY: ERABENOLD

DISTRIBUTION: NONE INDIATED

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R 202029Z SEP 73

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TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TORREMOLINO 005 ACTION SECSTATE 18 SEPT

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TORREMOLINOS 0005

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS,
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973, SITREP 2.

FOR EB/TD FROM USDEL TORREMOLINOS.

1. SECOND PLENARY AGENDA CALLED INTER ALIA FOR SETTING
OF DATES FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SYG AND DEPUTY
AND MEMBERS OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. THIS LED
TO EXTENDED DEBATE ON POLITICAL AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS
WHICH LASTED ENTIRE DAY.

2. AMONG POLITICAL MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE:

A. UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP: USSR REGRETTED ABSENCE
OF UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP AND SPECIFICALLY FACT THAT NORTH
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KOREA WAS NOT MEMBER OF ITU. ROK DEL GAVE LOW

KEY RESPONSE NOTING THAT 1971 VOTE ON NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. ADDED THAT IF NORTH KOREA REAPPLIES, ROK WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT OPPOSE. PRC DEL GAVE POLEMICAL SPEECH, TERMING LON NOL GOVERNMENT QUOTE SCUM UNQUOTE AND DEMANDING SEATING OF SIHANOUK REPS, PLUS MEMBERSHIP OF NORTH KOREA, NORTH VIETNAM AND PRG. (NO EVIDENCE THUS FAR THAT REPS OF ANY OF FOREGOING CURRENTLY IN TORREMOLINOS OR WILL ACTUALLY APPLY.)

B. PORTUGAL-SOUTH AFRICA. NIGERIAN REP PROPOSED THAT BOTH PORTUGAL AND SOUTH AFRICA BE EXPELLED FROM MEMBERSHIP AND THAT PORTUGAL BE EXCLUDED FROM FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. MOST OTHER AFRICAN REPS SUPPORTED NIGERIA, BUT NO FORMAL RESOLUTION YET TO THIS EFFECT SUBMITTED.

3. OTHER MAJOR MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE:

A. DATES AND METHOD OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SYG, DEPUTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. ARGENTINA TOOK LEAD IN PROPOSING THAT ELECTIONS BE POSTPONED AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER CONFERENCE HAD MADE BASIC DECISIONS SUCH AS SIZE OF COUNCIL AND PROPOSAL FOR SECOND DEPUTY SYG, ALTHOUGH IT WAS REALIZED THIS MIGHT TAKE AT LEAST THREE WEEKS. ON OTHER HAND, MALAYSIA LED GROUP PROPOSING DECISION BE TAKEN SOONEST REGARDING THESE MATTERS IN COMMITTEE WITH REPORT BY SEPTEMBER 21 AND ELECTIONS BY SEPTEMBER 24; RATIONALE WAS THAT SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF VIP DELEGATION HEADS HAD TO DEPART EARLY AND ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD BEFORE THEY LEAVE. STILL OTHER MEMBERS WISHED TO DELAY ELECTIONS UNTIL END OF CONFERENCE. DESPITE PROTRACTED DISCUSSION THIS ITEM, NO DECISION REACHED BY END OF DAY'S DEBATE.

B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - VIRTUALLY ALL LDCS DECRIED SMALL AMOUNTS OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ITU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IVORY COAST SUGGESTED A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUND IN THE REGULAR ITU BUDGET AND ARGENTINA ADVOCATED ESTABLISHMENT OF ANOTHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ELECTIVE POSITION, SIMILAR TO DIRECTORS OF INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (CCIS) TO CONCENTRATE ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. SEVERAL OTHER DELS SUGGESTED THEY MIGHT SUPPORT CREATION OF POSITION OF SECOND DEPUTY SYG IF HE BE PUT IN CHARGE OF ITU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.

4. U.S. ENTERED LOW KEY STATEMENT NOTING LONG TERM

EFFECTIVENESS OF UNION UNDER EXISTING STRUCTURE AND
SUGGESTING CAUTION IN ADOPTING MAJOR CHANGES. CONCLUDED
WITH OPTIMISTIC REFERENCE TO PROBABLE SUCCESS OF
CONFERENCE WITH SUPPORT FOR AGENDA TO DATE AS FORMULATED
BY SECRETARIAT.

5. DEBATE SCHEDULED CONTINUE SEPTEMBER 18 WITH
APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MORE COUNTRIES LISTED TO
MAKE STATEMENTS. BEAM UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE187322
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/IB:TGMARTIN:BAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730921/aaaaaozi.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS, SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973, SITREP 2.
TAGS: ETEL
To: LISBON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005